

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02
MCT-01 /092 W
-----030223Z 047137 /70/41

R 021324Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4436
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0726

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PARA 1)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PROP, LY, EG
SUBJ: LIBYANS CRITICIZE FORMER PRIME MINISTER, ACCUSE EGYPTIANS
OF SABOTAGE

SUMMARY. LIBYA CASTIGATES ITS FORMER PRIMIN. CLAIM
EGYPTIANS PLANNED TO SABOTAGE ISLAMIC FM CONFERENCE. END
SUMMARY.

1. IN PERHAPS MOST VITRIOLIC COMMENTARY TO DATE IN THE
LIBYAN/EGYPTIAN MEDIA PROPAGANDA EXCHANGE, LIBYANS HAVE
SINGLED OUT THEIR FORMER PRIMIN UNDER THE IDRIS REGIME,
HAMID AL-BAKKOUSH, WHO RECENTLY SETTLED IN CAIRO. LIBYAN
MEDIA REPORTS THAT BAKKOUSHS ESCAPED FROM LIBYA BECAUSE
OF "FAMILY FILTH INVOLVING HIS WIFE WHOSE IMMORAL
ACTIONS SMELT TO HEAVEN." MEDIA DESCRIBED BAKKOUSHS
AS TRASH WHO HAD "NO PLACE AMONGST HIS HONORABLE
AND SELF-RESPECTING COUNTRYMEN." COMMENTARIES ON
BAKKOUSHS ALLEGE THAT HE WAS TRIED AND CONVICTED ON
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FIVE COUNTS, INCLUDING FRAUD, MISCONDUCT AND RIGGING
OF ELECTIONS UNDER THE PREVIOUS REGIME. ACCORDING
TO MEDIA, BAKKOUSHS WAS RELEASED AFTER A BRIEF JAIL
SENTENCE TO BE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL ABROAD FOR MEDICAL
TREATMENT ON "COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS." MEDIA ARGUES
THAT BAKKOUSHS, WHO WAS ALLEGEDLY ALSO EXPELLED FROM
THE LIBYAN BAR ASSOCIATION UNDER THE IDRIS REGIME,

"TRAMPLED LIBYA'S HONOR INTO THE MUD." ARTICLES
STATE THAT LIBYA HAS NOTHING TO FEAR FROM SHAME-
RIDDEN BAKKOUSH.

2. MOST RECENT ACCUSATION OF LIBYANS AGAINST EGYPT
SURFACED MAY 31 WITH LOCAL MEDIA REPORT OF ARREST
BY LIBYAN AUTHORITIES OF ALLEGED EGYPTIAN SABOTAGE
RING. GROUP OF EIGHT EGYPTIANS WERE HERDED BEFORE
LIBYAN NATIONAL TELEVISION EVENING OF MAY 30 AND
CONFESSED THAT "THEY WERE RECRUITED AND TRAINED BY
THE EGYPTIAN INTELLIGENCE UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION
OF EGYPTIAN INTELLIGENCE ARAB AFFAIRS BUREAU ACTING
UNDER PERSONAL ORDERS OF PRESIDENT SADAT." ALLEGED
EGYPTIAN SABOTEURS STATED THAT EGYPTIAN INTELLIGENCE
SUPPLIED THEM WITH EXPLOSIVE CHARGES, INCLUDING TIME
BOMB PENCILS AND HIGHLY EXPLOSIVE TNT. GROUP
ALLEGEDLY PLANNED TO DYNAMITE PEOPLE'S HALL DURING
ISLAMIC FM CONFERENCE MAY 16-22. GROUP REPORTEDLY
ALSO PLANNED TO DESTROY GAS STATIONS, WATER MAINS
AND VITAL ECONOMIC INSTALLATIONS. DURING TWO-HOUR
TELEVISED "CONFESSION" SABOTEURS EXPLAINED IN DETAIL
THEIR ALLEGED RECRUITMENT IN ALEXANDRIA AND TRAINING
WITH EXPLOSIVE DEVICES IN CAIRO. MEDIA EXCLAIMS
DISMAY AT "DEVILISH, WICKED, DAMNABLE PLOT WHICH
PROVOKES CONTEMPT AND DISGUST." LIBYAN PUBLIC
DISPLAY OF ALLEGED EGYPTIAN SABOTEURS DURING THE
SAME PERIOD THAT IS POPULAR PEOPLE'S COMMITTEES ARE
DELIBERATING THE FATE OF EGYPTIAN WORKERS IN LIBYA
SUGGEST THAT GOVERNMENT IS ATTEMPTING TO CONFIRM ITS
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ALLEGATION THAT EGYPTIAN WORKERS IN LIBYA ARE A
POTENTIAL THREAT TO LIBYA'S SECURITY.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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TAGS: PROP, LY, EG, (AL-BAKKOUSH, HAMID)
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